

REMARKS

In the present communication, no claims have been amended, added, or cancelled. The Examiner withdrew Claims 15-16, 18-20, 22, and 28 from consideration. As such, Claims 14, 17, 21, and 23-27 are currently pending and under Examination.

The Examiner issued a single rejection, rejecting Claims 14, 17, 21, and 23-27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Koduri et al. in view of Urbani et al., Ogle et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. 2007/0042349), Song et al., and Goronzy et al. (Arthritis Res. Ther. 2003, 5:225-234). Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection.

Applicants have filed herewith a 1.132 Declaration by Jeffrey Platt removing the Ogle et al. Patent Publication reference as prior art. Applicants have also filed herewith a 1.131 Declaration by Marilia Cascalho removing the Goronzy et al. references as prior art. In light of these two Declarations, Applicants submit that this rejection should be withdrawn as none of the other cited reference teaches measuring T-cell diversity.

CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would aid in the prosecution of this application, Applicants encourage the Examiner to call the undersigned at 608-662-1277.

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